

Siloam's Ministry of Giving (2 Corinthians 8:6)

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Dear Siloam friends and ministry investors

The 28th of March 2021 provided a timely landmark in the achievements of the Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital in Coimbatore, South India. Indeed, the date celebrates the 43rd anniversary of the establishment of the Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital which was set up in 1978 by the Founder Dr Sarojini Thomas with the help of Siloam's late German Founder, Dr Karl Becker.

Also, on this auspicious day the Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital celebrated the acquisition of the <u>first Optopol Revo fundus camera in India</u> with the advanced feature of non-invasive and angiography function which can pick up the earliest retinal pathology or symptoms due to diabetes, glaucoma, age related macular generation and other serious retinal vascular disorders.

It is recommended that everyone over the age of 50 should have an initial baseline OCT scan conducted, even if nothing is suspected. The subsequent follow-up scans will provide an accurate information record on the progression of a disease,

if it is indeed present. Treatment <u>can thus begin very early</u> to stand a more successful chance of saving a patient's precious eyesight.

India is reckoned to be the world's <u>capital of diabetes</u> where it is estimated to affect over 70 million people by 2025 and more than 80 million by 2030. The present prevalence of diabetic retinopathy in India is estimated to be 21.7% out of whom 61.2% are males of which 88.6% are between the ages of 40 and 80.

The recent acquisition of the Optopol Revo optical coherence tomography (OCT) fundus camera was only made possible by a bank in India which loaned the Rupee equivalent of the £20,000 required. With the monthly repayments over 5 years approaching £500, Siloam Christian Ministries here in the UK has pledged to make that commitment possible.

Siloam
Thomas Eye
Hospital also celebrates
on 28th March 2021 the
acquisition of the first
Optopol Revo fundus
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28th March 2021 celebrates the 43rd anniversary of the Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital



The Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital in India is a privately run charitable hospital which over the last 43 years has provided affordable eye care to those least able to afford it. The hospital has so far conducted over 900 free eye camps and screened more than 300,000 patients and performed over 30,000 free cataract surgeries. The Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital is recognised by the District Blindness Control Society, Coimbatore Chapter as well as by many other bodies.

Patients who are just too poor to contribute and particularly those who also suffer with leprosy, are generally treated free of charge, which was the expressed desire of the Founders Dr Sarojini Thomas and the late Dr Karl Becker.

Since those early days, optical technology has advanced considerably and with the generous help provided by donations from overseas. The Siloam Thomas Hospital has made available the best equipment and provided optimal treatment to those people in India who are least able to afford it.

P.T.O. **⇒**





Scan the code or visit https://bit.ly/3xmd0VL to watch a short video showing you graphically the importance of this medical ministry and why we at Siloam feel it is worthy of your continued generous financial investment.

To learn more about this unique Christian ministry, please scan the code or visit https://bit.ly/3u1nYxA to see the 'Souvenir' brochure which was released on 28th March 2021.





"Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital in Coimbatore, South India has so far conducted over 900 FREE eye camps and screened more than 300,000 patients and performed over 30,000 FREE cataract surgeries."

This medical ministry to date has <u>only been possible</u> because of the charitable help provided by <u>caring folk like you</u> who have seen the great need of those desperate people who are just not in a position to help themselves. If an aged relative is no longer able to work, they become a burden on the family and are often undervalued and sometimes neglected. By giving deserving people renewed eyesight, it is perhaps the greatest gift, apart from life itself, that <u>we can give to another fellow human being.</u>

As this was Siloam's foundational ministry which began in India in 1978, I would like our committed supporters and investors to continue to share in the success and powerful Christian witness of the Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital and enable it to continue by sharing in the financial commitment that it deserves.

You can help this month in two ways.

- 1. By providing a special gift that will enable someone in India with failing eyesight to receive the urgent and vital treatment their sight loss demands, at an affordable cost.
- 2. Or, could you enter into a Bank Mandate Standing Order commitment with Siloam to pledge a regular monthly gift of £5, £10 or £20 to help Siloam cover the repayments of the bank loan which was such a great and upfront help in acquiring the Optopol Revo fundus camera? Just tick on the \Box on your response form and return it to us in our 'Freepost' envelope. Thank you.

I can personally recommend of the support of the Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital as I have visited Coimbatore many times and witnessed with my own eyes, modern medical 'miracles' taking place in the operating theatre while observing the technical skill of Dr Devdutt Thomas, the son of the Founder Dr Sarojini Thomas.

In life there are really only two great fears people have. One is the fear of death particularly if one does not have the personal assurance of saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the other is the fear of going blind! The Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital uses the available provision of medical care as a practical expression of God's love to humanity.

These lines by the famous poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow best sums up the quest to provide high quality eye care to those less fortunate while leaving an indelible mark in the field of ophthalmology in India over the last 43 years.

Yours sincerely on behalf of those in India who will enjoy renewed eyesight because you care

"Lives of great men all remind us We must make our lives sublime And departing, leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time"

H.W. Longfellow

Richard Norton

Director-Siloam UK

P.S. Just take time to study our 2 page colourful photo report and let the Holy Spirit prompt you as to how you should respond to this investment opportunity – thank you, – enjoy the photos.



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Siloam Thomas Eye Hospital

Situated at a busy locality in the city of Coimbatore on the northwest edge of Tamil Nadu, South India.



The current Director, Chief Ophthalmologist and Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dr Devdutt Thomas.

Dr Thomas trained in the O.E.U.
Institute of Ophthalmology in
Manipur and at the Christian Medical
College in Vellore. He comes highly
recommended as one of India's most
highly qualified Ophthalmic Surgeons.
Indeed, his dedication to the vision of his
mother the Founder Dr Sarojini Thomas, to
provide affordable eye care to those least able to

afford it, bears testimony to his unstinting

dedication to Christian medical ministry in India today. Indeed, Dr Dev Thomas could have

carved out a very auspicious and prosperous career for himself overseas if he had been distracted by the desire for wealth rather than service to the people of his own country.

The Founder Dr Sarojini Thomas with her son Dr Dev Thomas at the inauguration of the Optopol Revo fundus camera on 28th March 2021.

The all-important Optopol Revo optical coherence tomography (OCT) fundus camera, that was inaugurated on 28th March 2021.

This is what our
Optopol fundus camera
will show to an examining
Ophthalmologist. The camera

reveals the condition of the retina and the macular and can quickly provide important prognostic information so treatment can begin. For those more technically minded, please check out our souvenir brochure in which you can see the images explained more fully.

Remember, these high-tech advanced medical procedures have only been made available to people in South India who would least be able to afford them, because Siloam Thomas Hospital supporters and benefactors have made that possible.



A bouquet of important medical milestones achieved with your help



Dr Sarojini spent many years in the 1960s being trained in the United Kingdom working in hospitals in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne as well as in the London area. When she returned to Coimbatore in South India, she set up her project in 1978. She recruited a team of volunteers who believed that the poorest of the poor should have the benefit of the most innovated sight saving equipment of the day. The alleviation of cataract blindness was the main theme of the community eye care project in the past which included conducting free eye camps during which hundreds, if not thousands, of suspected cataract sufferers were screened and afterwards several hundred free cataract surgeries were provided.





The small socially distanced gathering on 28th March 2021 for the inauguration of our Optopol Revo fundus camera. Many others could not attend due to the 'Covid-19' pandemic

restrictions.



I remember personally meeting this Hindu temple priest in November 2014 and witnessing his extreme gratefulness for the technical skills of Dr Dev as he treated his cataract condition. He is now a 'walking advertisement' for the Siloam Thomas Hospital. He claimed he felt the presence of Christ standing beside him the night after his cataract surgery. – How wonderful!



Dr Dev conducting glaucoma screening, recording of intraocular pressure using applanation tonometry.

Glaucoma is often spoken of as the 'silent sneak thief of vision,' it is a multi-factional disease causing progressive damage to the optic nerve leading to the eventual loss of the field of vision. This is mostly caused by a fluid pressure build-up inside the eye which left untreated will result in blindness.



Providing hand sanitation in order to comply with the 'Covid-19' recommendations on 28th March 2021. Sadly, currently India is suffering a great new wave of 'Covid-19' infections.

